

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT (PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

REC'D 14 OCT 2004

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Applicant's or agent's file reference P12757/OLL	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/EP 03/05715	International filing date (day/month/year) 31.05.2003	Priority date (day/month/year) 12.07.2002
International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC H04M1/02		
Applicant SONY ERICSSON MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS AB et al		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of 5 sheets, including this cover sheet.
 - ☒ This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e. sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of 3 sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:
 - I ☒ Basis of the opinion
 - II ☐ Priority
 - III ☐ Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
 - IV ☐ Lack of unity of invention
 - V ☒ Reasoned statement under Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
 - VI ☐ Certain documents cited
 - VII ☐ Certain defects in the international application
 - VIII ☐ Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 16.01.2004	Date of completion of this report 13.10.2004
Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:  European Patent Office D-80298 Munich Tel. +49 89 2399 - 0 Tx: 523656 epmu d Fax: +49 89 2399 - 4465	Authorized Officer Bianchi, D Telephone No. +49 89 2399-8808 <div style="text-align: right;">  </div>

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT**

International application No. **PCT/EP 03/05715**

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the **elements** of the international application (*Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17)*):

Description, Pages

1-10 as originally filed

Claims, Numbers

1-16 received on 26.05.2004 with letter of 24.05.2004

Drawings, Sheets

1/5-5/5 as originally filed

2. With regard to the **language**, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language: , which is:

- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of the international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
 - ☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
 - ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).
3. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:
- ☐ contained in the international application in written form.
 - ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
 - ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
 - ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
 - ☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
 - ☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.
4. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:
- ☐ the description, pages:
 - ☐ the claims, Nos.:
 - ☐ the drawings, sheets:

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT**

International application No. PCT/EP 03/05715

5. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed (Rule 70.2(c)).

(Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.)

6. Additional observations, if necessary:

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes: Claims	1-16
	No: Claims	
Inventive step (IS)	Yes: Claims	1-16
	No: Claims	
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes: Claims	1-16
	No: Claims	

2. Citations and explanations

see separate sheet

Re Item V

Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1 Reference is made to the following documents:

- D1: EP-A-0 608 899 (MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC CORP) 3 August 1994 (1994-08-03)
- D2: WO 02/41607 A (SENDO INTERNAT LTD ;ROPER MICHAEL JOHN (GB)) 23 May 2002 (2002-05-23)
- D3: GB-A-2 362 071 (NOKIA MOBILE PHONES LTD) 7 November 2001 (2001-11-07)

2 The subject matter of independent **claims 1 and 9** is new (Article 33(2) PCT) over the cited prior art documents and is considered as involving an inventive step (Article 33(3) PCT) for the following reasons:

2.1 Technical field

The present invention relates to a radio communication terminal (claim 1) and a radio communication terminal and detachable housing combination (claim 9).

2.2 Closest prior art

Document **D1** describes a radio communication terminal, to which additional devices can be connected by means of a terminal system connector provided at one end of the terminal. Stacking of more than one additional device is possible by means of an additional separate external connector, which is adapted to be connected between the device(s) and the radio communication terminal. Prior art documents **D2** and **D3** disclose a radio communication terminal comprising a detachable housing, the housing including an electronic memory or an active component. An electrical connection between the housing and the terminal is done via a housing connector (D2) or using a contactless reader (D3).

2.3 Problem

The terminals known from the prior art have the problem that they need a separate connector for the external devices/housings, thus resulting in a complex and expensive design.

2.4 Solution

The above-mentioned problem is solved, according to the features of independent claims 1 and 9, by providing a multipath connector whereby the terminal system connector and the housing connector form a first and second interface to the multipath connector respectively. This brings the technical effect that a more compact and cheaper design is possible.

2.5 Conclusion

With the prior art documents not disclosing nor rendering obvious the above solution, the subject matter of independent claims 1 and 9 and their relating dependent claims is considered to meet the requirements of Article 33(2) and (3) PCT.

3 The subject matter of claims 1 to 16 is industrially applicable (Article 33(4) PCT).